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RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEFHLC/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BRUSSELS 000269

SIPDIS

STATE FOR S/WCI, S/CT, EUR/ERA, INL, INL/PC, INL/AAE, L/LEI
DRL/MLGA
NSC FOR KVIE
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TAGS PREL, KAWK, KISL, PTER, EUN
SUBJECT: GUANTANAMO: AMBASSADOR WILLIAMSON CONFERS WITH EU
OFFICIALS
REF: A. BRUSSELS 120 B. BRUSSELS 159 C. BRUSSELS 268

Classified By: USEU Political M-C Chris Davis for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

11. (C) SUMMARY: S/WCI Ambassador Clint Williamson and European Union (EU) Counter-Terrorism Coordinator Gilles de Kerchove discussed de Kerchove's EU Perspective

12. (C) Williamson also met with the EU Parliamentarians responsible for the now ratified EU Joint Resolution on Guantanamo, congratulating the

De Kerchove's EU Perspective

13. (C) On his tenth day of travels within the EU, Ambassador Williamson met in Brussels February 17 with EU Counterterrorism Coordinator Gilles de Kerchove.

14. (C) On forming an EU position, De Kerchove indicated that a favorable scenario would be a consensus agreement allowing individual members to

15. (C) Conversation then shifted to the USG process moving forward. Williamson described two parallel U.S. review processes; (1) review of the
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Guantanamo, and (2) review of policies involving detention, Guantanamo, and related issues. Files must be collected from multiple departments,

16. (C) Williamson and De Kerchove agreed to consult further after the February 26 JHA Informal meeting and before anticipated travel by JHA Cc

"We need better pictures"

17. (C) During a subsequent meeting on February 17 with Riina Kionka, High Representative Javier Solana's Personal Representative for Human Riç

18. (C) While emphasizing that EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator Gilles de Kerchove had the lead on this issue, Kionka raised a few specific concerns

19. (C) Kionka also highlighted the gap between public perceptions of the kinds of detainees at Guantanamo and the reality that many are very low

Parliamentary support

10. (C) Amb. Williamson hosted a lunch for three Members of the European Parliament (MEP) who were the principal authors of a recent resolution.

11. (C) The MEPs were careful to point out that the support was not unqualified. Legal issues surrounding the admission of detainees into the
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rendition operations to Guantanamo had a particular ethical responsibility to accept detainees if it would contribute to the closure of the facility.

12. (U) Ambassador Williamson has cleared on this telegram.

MURRAY .